| Applicant(s)  SAITOH, HIROMI  Art Unit  2871  th the correspondence address- this application. If not included unication will be mailed in due course. THIS subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative  or (f).   |
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| a reply complying with the requirements  AMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF declaration is deficient.  ( PTO-948) attached  in the Office action of  the drawings in the front (not the back) of R 1.121(d).  ERIAL must be submitted. Note the DLOGICAL MATERIAL. |
| formal Patent Application (PTO-152)   |
|   |

Application/Control Number: 10/608,475

Art Unit: 2871

## **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

## 1. Claims 1-6 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not anticipate nor render obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art a liquid crystal display device comprising a combination of various elements as claimed, more specifically, a third substrate disposed above the outer side of at least one of the first substrate and the second substrate, the third substrate being formed of a same material as the at least one of the first substrate, the size of the third substrate being larger than the size of the first substrate, the position of the end surface of the first substrate being disposed inwardly of the third substrate, a shielding member being disposed on the third substrate, along the peripheral region of the third substrate (claims 1, 4-6); a third substrate disposed above the outer side of at least one of the first substrate and the second substrate, the size of the third substrate being larger than the size of the first substrate, the position of the end surface of the first substrate being disposed inwardly of the third substrate, a shielding member being disposed on the third substrate, along the peripheral region of the third substrate, the incident light from the third substrate side traveling through the third substrate side traveling through the first substrate and being emitted from the second substrate, and the light shielding member overlapping the sealant and extending outward over the sealant as viewed in plane (claims 2-3).

Gomi ('706) discloses a liquid crystal display device comprising first and second substrates, a liquid crystal layer sandwiched between the first and second substrates a third substrate disposed on an outer side of the first/second substrate. However, Gomi fails to disclose 'a third substrate disposed above the outer side of at least one of the first substrate and

the second substrate, the third substrate being formed of a same material as the at least one of the first substrate, the size of the third substrate being larger than the size of the first substrate, the position of the end surface of the first substrate being disposed inwardly of the third substrate, a shielding member being disposed on the third substrate, along the peripheral region of the third substrate (claims 1, 4-6); a third substrate disposed above the outer side of at least one of the first substrate and the second substrate, the size of the third substrate being larger than the size of the first substrate, the position of the end surface of the first substrate being disposed inwardly of the third substrate, a shielding member being disposed on the third substrate, along the peripheral region of the third substrate, the incident light from the third substrate side traveling through the third substrate side traveling through the first substrate and being emitted from the second substrate, and the light shielding member overlapping the sealant and extending outward over the sealant as viewed in plane (claims 2-3).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan Ton whose telephone number is (571) 272-2303.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

March 31, 2005

TOANTON TOANTHER

PRIMARY EXAMINER